

Sandpiper which remained and nested with us this summer. The Black Terns circled overhead. By a careful count over the entire pond I found eight Red-backed Sandpipers there at one time.

We remained for an hour or more watching this great flock of birds at work feeding, and marveled at the sight which became so fixed in my mind that I will never forget it: when I am older I can tell the younger generation of the beautiful shore birds observed in the spring of 1925 in one of the last remaining ponds of the prairies of Iowa.

OGDEN, IOWA.

SUMMER BIRDS AT HURON MOUNTAIN, MICHIGAN

BY BAYARD H. CHRISTY

The ensuing list of birds is the result of a visit to the Huron Mountain Club, Marquette County, in the northern peninsula of Michigan, from May 21 to June 17, 1925. The area traversed lies within a radius of ten miles from the mouth of Pine River, which empties into Lake Superior about forty-five miles west of Marquette: it lies between the Salmon Trout River on the east and the Little Huron River on the west: it includes the Huron Islands, two miles off-shore: and extends southward, as has been said, about ten miles. The region is rugged, with broken granitic mountains whose summits rise about nine hundred feet above the lake surface, and is well forested, with both conifers and hardwoods. Headlands of red sandstone stand out in the lake, with beaches of coarse sand in the bays between. A dozen lakes varying in length from three miles and a half to a hundred yards afford further diversity. Some of these lie in littoral sand plains, some beneath granite crags: some are deep, some shallow and choked with sphagnum bogs. Clear, cold streams lead from lake to lake and to Lake Superior. The area is largely the preserve of the Club named above.

The list is essentially one of the summer birds, but it includes also a considerable number of transients: for at the beginning of the period the tide of migration was still at flood. The transients, however, are, with few exceptions, easily distinguishable, as will be apparent on reading the notes. The list could not, under the circumstances, be all-inclusive: but it may be found useful for reference, and may perhaps serve as a beginning in the preparation of a complete check-list for the locality.

[The following list contains 122 named forms.—Ed.]

Loon—*Gavia immer*. A pair was noted on each of the inland lakes, and other pairs were seen at intervals along the shore of Lake

Superior, and at Huron Islands. On Lake Superior it was not uncommon to see two pairs in a party together, and in one case a fifth bird, in winter plumage, was observed. On June 13 on one of the inland lakes a chick was seen on its mother's back.

Herring Gull—*Larus argentatus*. Abundant, frequenting the beaches, and making excursions to the inland lakes. A nesting colony was found on the Huron Islands (a sanctuary under the control of the National Association of Audubon Societies) numbering, roughly, between 2000 and 4000 adults. On June 15 a few nests still contained eggs, but for the most part the chicks were hatched, and were running about and taking to water when disturbed. All were in downy plumage, and none was able to fly.

Merganser—*Mergus americanus*. Frequently met, on all waters. A pair was nesting in a large birch stub, forty feet high, standing in the woods, a hundred yards from a running stream. May 31, and repeatedly thereafter, females with ducklings were encountered; the broods numbered from eight to twelve. When disturbed the mother swims away carrying most of her brood on her back, the others swimming, or perhaps clinging, behind.

Black Duck—*Anas rubripes*. Not uncommon on inland waters. On June 15 a half-grown brood of young was seen in the alder-grown slack water above a beaver dam on the Little Huron River; another brood was seen on June 17 in an alder swamp edging a boggy lake.

Lesser Scaup Duck—*Marila affinis*. A single female was seen on an inland lake on May 25; also a pair on another inland lake on May 29, and on June 5 another pair on Lake Superior. The head of one of the drakes, examined through a field glass, seemed to be violet, without green reflections; accordingly, that pair was, with some assurance, set down as *affinis*. The others were, in all likelihood, of the same species. All, doubtless, were transients.

Bittern—*Botaurus lentiginosus*. Not uncommon in bogs. On June 3 I flushed one from grass in a tamarack swamp, and from the fact that it returned immediately after my departure I judged that it was nesting.

Least Bittern—*Ixobrychus exilis*. One was flushed from the reeds at the margin of a boggy lake, on June 17.

Great Blue Heron—*Ardea h. herodias*. Common. Found in pairs in remote, shallow bays of all the small lakes, and on the streams as well.

Virginia Rail—*Rallus virginianus*. Encountered twice, on May 30 and June 17. A summer resident, no doubt.

Woodcock—*Rubicola minor*. In a beaver meadow on the Salmon Trout River on May 30 I heard and saw a Woodcock at dusk, performing its sky dance.

Wilson's Snipe—*Gallinago delicata*. On June 13, at twilight, above a boggy lake, I noted a snipe "bleating"—a most inappropriate term when applied to our bird.

Least Sandpiper—*Pisobia minutilla*. A single bird was seen on a sandbar in Pine River on May 31. A transient visitant.

Semipalmated Sandpiper—*Ereunetes pusillus*. On June 3 a single bird was seen on a sandbar in Pine River. A transient visitant.

Yellow-legs—*Totanus flavipes*. On June 5 one of these birds spent the day and remained till after dark (a moonlight night), feeding, on a sandbar in Pine River. A transient visitant.

Solitary Sandpiper—*Tringa s. solitaria*. Two individuals were seen, separately, on May 26, on inland waters. I failed to find any remaining to nest.

Spotted Sandpiper—*Actitis macularia*. An abundant summer resident, along the margins of the lakes and streams.

Killdeer—*Oxyechus v. vociferus*. Transient chiefly; a few remain as summer residents in favorable places.

(Canada Spruce Partridge — *Canachites canadensis canace*. Searched for in likely places, where in earlier years I had found it, but without success.)

Canada Ruffed Grouse—*Bonasa umbellus togata*. A permanent resident, generally distributed, which is becoming rather rare. A hen with a newly hatched brood of young was found on June 17 in an alder swamp.

Mourning Dove—*Zenaidura macroura carolinensis*. On June 5 and 6 a single individual was heard and seen in a second growth of jack pines, on sand plains near Lake Superior.

Marsh Hawk—*Circus hudsonius*. A single adult was seen on a drive from Marquette. It was sought in vain in a cranberry bog where in past years I have found it—though at a somewhat later season.

Sharp-shinned Hawk—*Accipiter velox*. Not uncommon. It was observed on sand plains grown with jack pines, near Lake Superior.

Cooper's Hawk—*Accipiter cooperi*. Less common than *velox*. One was seen on Salmon Trout River.

Red-tailed Hawk—*Buteo b. borealis*. A common summer resident, widely distributed.

Broad-winged Hawk—*Buteo platypterus*. On May 29 a pair was seen on the shore of an inland lake (nesting?). On May 30 a single

bird was seen on another lake.

Bald Eagle—*Haliaeetus l. leucocephalus*. Two birds, in immature plumage, were repeatedly seen throughout all the period, both about the inland lakes and Lake Superior.

Duck Hawk—*Falco peregrinus anatum*. One of these birds was seen on a sandstone cliff, facing Lake Superior, on June 11.

Pigeon Hawk—*Falco c. columbarius*. On May 25 and 26 a single individual was observed on Pine River. Doubtless a transient only.

Sparrow Hawk—*Cerchneis s. sparverius*. Not common; seen about clearings.

Osprey—*Pandion haliaetus carolinensis*. Was seen infrequently, though a regular summer resident.

(Long-eared Owl—*Asio wilsonianus*. On May 25, near the shore of a small lake, a bird flew from a low perch in level course and disappeared in the shadows of a growth of jack pines. Sure identification was impossible, but I am reasonably confident that it was this species.)

Barred Owl—*Strix v. varia*. A common permanent resident, heard calling by day from heavy hard-wood timber.

Saw-whet Owl—*Cryptoglaux acadica*. Plentiful. Met repeatedly at dusk in the jack pines, in family groups, evidently. One flew, bat-like, low overhead.

Great Horned Owl—*Bubo v. virginianus*. A common permanent resident. Heard calling in the early evening.

Black-billed Cuckoo—*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*. A single bird was seen on June 16 in a second growth of white birches, on a lake shore.

Belted Kingfisher—*Ceryle a. alcyon*. A common summer resident, found along the shores of lakes and streams.

Hairy Woodpecker—*Dryobates v. villosus*. I am satisfied that both *villosus* and *leucomelas* are present. *Villosus* is rather common about the Club buildings, and in like places; in remoter, heavy hard-wood forests the noticeably larger, whiter *leucomelas* is found. To make such determination absolutely certain, collecting would be necessary, and this I was not prepared to do.

Northern Hairy Woodpecker—*Dryobates v. leucomelas*. Not uncommon in the heavier timber, as noted above.

Downy Woodpecker—*Dryobates pubescens medianus*. Common and widely distributed. I was unable, with the glass alone, to make exact identification between the two possible subspecies *medianus* and *nelsoni*.

Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker—*Picoides arcticus*. On June 10

a single female was seen on a high, inland jack pine plain, at the edge of heavy hard-wood timber.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—*Sphyrapicus v. varius*. An abundant and well distributed summer resident.

Northern Pileated Woodpecker—*Phloeotomus pileatus abieticola*. A fairly common permanent resident, but at this season it is remarkably silent and secretive, and difficult to find. It frequents the heavy-hard-wood forests, particularly where ash and elm are found. I heard two or three call, and succeeded in observing one male.

Northern Flicker—*Colaptes auratus luteus*. Abundant and well distributed, particularly in open places and old burnings where scattered bare stubs remain standing.

Nighthawk—*Chordeiles v. virginianus*. First seen on May 30: migration continued for several days: many remained. A common summer resident on the sand plains and open mountain tops.

Chimney Swift—*Chaetura pelagica*. A common summer resident, first seen on May 27.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird—*Archilochus colubris*. A common summer resident, first seen on May 31.

Kingbird—*Tyrannus tyrannus*. Common along the margins of lakes and streams. Nests in dead cedars overhanging water.

Arkansas Kingbird—*Tyrannus verticalis*. On June 1 I found a single individual in association (perhaps accidental) with a scattered band of Cedar Waxwings, in an open grove of young aspens, on the Salmon Trout River. It must be regarded as an accidental visitant in this region. (This record was also published in the WILSON BULLETIN, XXXVII O. S., September, 1925, page 173.)

Crested Flycatcher—*Myiarchus crinitus*. A single individual was seen on the shore of an inland lake on June 3.

Phoebe—*Sayornis phoebe*. A common summer resident nesting about the Club buildings and boat houses.

Olive-sided Flycatcher—*Nuttallornis borealis*. Abundant: first noted on May 29. Its call, "Pip, Three Cheers!" was often heard from the top of dead, standing timber, usually near water.

Wood Pewee—*Myiochanes virens*. It is common, and well distributed: first heard on May 30.

Alder Flycatcher—*Empidonax trailli alnorum*. Common in alder growths.

Least Flycatcher—*Empidonax minimus*. Abundant and widely distributed.

Blue Jay—*Cyanocitta c. cristata*. Common, and widely distributed.

Northern Raven—*Corvus corax principalis*. Two pairs were noted; one in a forest at the base of a granite precipice; the other at the edge of a slough, draining into the Salmon Trout River.

Crow—*Corvus b. brachyrhynchos*. Common, and widely distributed. A few were seen on the Huron Islands, where, doubtless, they prey somewhat on gulls' eggs.

Bobolink—*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*. On June 13 it was found in abundance in the meadows of a farm on the shore of an inland lake, and there undoubtedly was nesting.

Cowbird—*Molothrus a. ater*. Abundant about stables and pastures.

Red-winged Blackbird—*Agelaius p. phoeniceus*. Common in the open meadows and bogs. The subspecies *fortis* is imputed to this region by Barrows; but such examination as I was able to make through a field glass revealed only *phoeniceus*.

Meadowlark—*Sturnella m. magna*. One individual was seen, on May 26, in a field on the shore of an inland lake.

Bronzed Grackle—*Quiscalus quiscula aeneus*. Common in colonies, particularly at the mouth of streams.

Evening Grosbeak—*Hesperiphona v. vespertina*. A pair was seen, on May 31, in woods on the shore of an inland lake. They were probably belated winter visitants.

Purple Finch—*Carpodacus p. purpureus*. Abundant and generally distributed.

House Sparrow—*Passer domesticus*. There were thriving colonies about the stables.

Crossbill—*Loxia curvirostra minor*. A few wandering bands were seen in conifers, usually in spruces.

Goldfinch—*Astragalinus t. tristis*. Common in the open spaces and clearings.

Pine Siskin—*Spinus pinus*. Fairly common in jack pine plains, and about clearings.

Vesper Sparrow—*Pooecetes g. gramineus*. Not abundant, lacking suitable environment. A few were noted in and near grassy clearings.

Savannah Sparrow—*Passerculus sandwichensis savanna*. Observed in small companies wherever pasture land was found.

White-throated Sparrow—*Zonotrichia albicollis*. Common and widely distributed.

Chipping Sparrow—*Spizella p. passerina*. Abundant in clearings and about dwellings. On June 6 a pair was found nest-building in a small spruce on the tree-line, fronting Lake Superior.

Slate-colored Junco—*Junco h. hyemalis*. Common, particularly in the jack pine plains.

Song Sparrow—*Melospiza m. melodia*. Abundant, especially by the water-side.

Swamp Sparrow—*Melospiza georgiana*. Not uncommon. Noted in marshy places along streams and lake shores.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak—*Hedymeles ludovicianus*. Abundant in hardwood forests. It was striking to see, on May 24, this tropical-colored bird against a snow-covered ground. On June 1 a female was observed at nest-building.

Scarlet Tanager—*Piranga erythromelas*. Common in hardwood forests.

Purple Martin—*Progne s. subis*. Seldom seen—one, or at most a pair together, in vicinity of dwellings. There was a flourishing colony at Marquette.

Cliff Swallow—*Petrochelidon l. lunifrons*. One or two were seen on June 7, with a company of Barn Swallows, milling beneath a log-framed bridge across Pine River at the Club House.

Barn Swallow—*Hirundo erythrogastra*. Abundant about the Club buildings. On June 2 one was observed carrying nest material.

Tree Swallow—*Iridoprocne bicolor*. Common summer resident, nesting in woodpecker holes in stubs standing in and near water.

Cedar Waxwing—*Bombycilla cedrorum*. Common. First seen on May 30. At the end of my stay they were still flying about in bands of a dozen to twenty.

Red-eyed Vireo—*Vireosylva olivacea*. Common. It frequents the hardwood forest and the edges of clearings.

Blue-headed Vireo—*Lanivireo s. solitarius*. Common. First seen on May 24, in association with mixed flocks of migrating warblers. Usually found among or near conifers. A summer resident.

Black and White Warbler—*Mniotilta varia*. A common summer resident, and well distributed.

Nashville Warbler—*Vermivora r. ruficapilla*. A summer resident, and one of the most abundant warblers. First seen on May 31. Frequents second growth.

Northern Parula Warbler—*Compsothlypis americana pusilla*. A common summer resident, which frequents the tree-tops in dense woods; it prefers hemlocks.

Cape May Warbler—*Dendroica tigrina*. This species was noted only as a transient on May 29, in a flock of migrating warblers.

Yellow Warbler—*Dendroica ae. aestiva*. Summer resident. Not common, for lack of suitable environment. Noted in and about clearings.

Black-throated Blue Warbler—*Dendroica c. caerulescens*. A common summer resident, which inhabits the deep-shadowed, damp forests; sometimes found among the hardwoods, but usually among evergreens.

Myrtle Warbler—*Dendroica coronata*. One of the most abundant resident warblers. Found usually in conifers; familiar about the Club buildings.

Magnolia Warbler—*Dendroica magnolia*. Summer resident, not common. Found usually in the evergreen forest, near water.

Chestnut-sided Warbler—*Dendroica pensylvanica*. A common summer resident. Found in the openings and lower, deciduous growths.

Bay-breasted Warbler—*Dendroica castanea*. Noted only as a transient in flocks with other migrating warblers, on May 24-29.

Black-poll Warbler—*Dendroica striata*. Noted only as a transient, May 25.

Blackburnian Warbler—*Dendroica fusca*. A common summer resident, inhabiting the tree-tops in hemlock woods.

Black-throated Green Warbler—*Dendroica virens*. Summer resident. The most abundant and most widely distributed of its family. Found usually among evergreens.

Pine Warbler—*Dendroica v. vigorsi*. A common summer resident. It frequents the upper branches of Norway pines.

Oven-bird—*Seiurus aurocapillus*. A common summer resident, found in hardwood forests.

Water-Thrush—*Seiurus n. noveboracensis*. A summer resident, abundant along the shores of inland lakes.

Mourning Warbler—*Oporornis philadelphia*. A common summer resident, found in low, deciduous growth, near water.

Maryland Yellow-throat—*Geothlypis t. trichas*. Summer resident. Not uncommon in suitable places; for example, the margin of boggy lakes.

Wilson's Warbler—*Wilsonia p. pusilla*. Summer resident, but not common. It frequents alders and bushes in wet places.

Canada Warbler—*Wilsonia canadensis*. A common summer resident which frequents low, thick growth, near water and at the margin of bogs.

Redstart—*Setophaga ruticilla*. A common summer resident, found in second growth, usually near water.

Catbird—*Dumetella carolinensis*. On June 14 a single individual was noted in an old burning, in low growth bordering a stream.

Brown Thrasher—*Toxostoma rufum*. An infrequent summer resident; found in clearings and old burnings.

House Wren—*Troglodytes ae. aedon*. Abundant, and widely distributed over all the area, even to the Huron Islands. It frequents open places.

Winter Wren—*Nannus h. hiemalis*. A common summer resident, in damp woods and near streams.

Long-billed Marsh Wren—*Telmatodytes p. palustris*. A resident colony was found in a sweet-gale thicket, which grew, island-like, in a sphagnum bog.

Brown Creeper—*Certhia familiaris americana*. Summer resident. Usually found in deep woods, in the vicinity of cedar swamps.

Red-breasted Nuthatch—*Sitta canadensis*. A common summer resident, which frequents the Norway and jack pines.

Chickadee—*Penthestes a. atricapillus*. Abundant and generally distributed. On May 25 it was observed feeding full-grown young.

Golden-crowned Kinglet—*Regulus s. satrapa*. A summer resident among jack pines and hemlocks.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet—*Regulus c. calendula*. A transient visitant. It was noted in full song on May 25, but was not observed subsequently.

Wood Thrush—*Hylocichla mustelina*. On June 1 a single bird was noted near a clearing on the Salmon Trout River.

Veery—*Hylocichla j. fuscescens*. Several were heard and seen along the Salmon Trout River, but not elsewhere.

Gray-cheeked Thrush—*Hylocichla a. aliciae*. A transient; noted on May 24, and on a few days following.

Olive-backed Thrush—*Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni*. The most abundant thrush. A summer resident, well-distributed; heard even on the Huron Islands.

Hermit Thrush—*Hylocichla guttata pallasi*. A common summer resident, well-distributed.

Robin—*Planesticus m. migratorius*. Abundant, particularly about dwellings.

Bluebird—*Sialia s. sialis*. Rather rare. Seen only on the jack pine plains.

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